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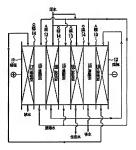
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(57)【要約】

【課題】 電気脱イオン鉄圏の電極室に充填したイオン 準電性物質の性能低下を防止して長期運転を可能とす

【解集手段】 揮集 11 を寄する解除室 7 年、勝転) 2 を寄する解除 18 と、たれらの報覧 7 名称機能 18 との間に複数のアニオン交換線 13 及びカテオン交換線 14 をと近に効労するととにより交互が取るわた。 繊維 13 友が保証を18 との様々の表現はインを 歴、福施室 17 及び移転室 18 にイオン場塞管健康が完 域を11 なが、18 にイオン場塞管健康が完 は対かが進水され、路極室 18 にはカテオンを除去した水 大又設体が必要がされる。



【特許請求の範囲】

【油水項1】 陽極を有する陽極密と 降極を有する除 福室と、これらの陽極室と除極寒との間に複数のアニオ ン交換膜及びカチオン交換機を交互に配列することによ

り交互に形成された連續室及び脱線室とを備え 陽極室にはカチオン交換膜を介して濃縮室が隣接し、陰 福室にはアニオン交換膜を介して濃縮室が隣接している **電気脱イオン装置において**

院極室及び陰極室にイオン漆縄性物能が充填されてお

職様室にはアニオンを除去した水又は純水が運水され、 降極率にはカチオンを除去した水又は純水が通水される ことを特徴とする電気脱イオン装置。

【註求項2】 註求項1において、陽称字のイオン導案 性物質がイオン交換能脂及び/又は活性機であり、降極 空のイオン導電性物質がイオン交換樹脂であることを特 微とする電気脱イオン線層。

[請求項3] 聴象項2において、イオン導係性物質に 重金関が担持されていることを特徴とする電気腕イオン

【註求項4】 請求項1ないし3のいずれか1項におい て、除極空流出水を陽極室流入水とすることを特徴とす る電気脱イオン鉄器。

[発明の詳細な説明]

[0001]

[発明の履する技術分野] 本発明は電気脱イオン鉄圏に 係り、特に電気脱イオン装置の電極室(関極変及び陰極 空) にイオン導電性物質を充填することにより電気効率 を高めた電気脱イオン装置において、電極空に充填した イオン導電性物理の性能低下を防止して長期運転を可能 30 とした電気脱イオン装置に関する。

[00021

[從來の技術] 從來, 半導体製造工場, 液鳥製造工場。 製薬工業、食品工業、電力工業等の各種の産業又は民生 用ないし研究は影等において使用される原イオン水の製 造には、図2に示す如く、電極(陽極11、陰極12) の間に複数のアニオン交換膜 (A膜) 13及びカチオン 交換職(C順) 14を交互に配列して逮縮室15と脱塩 室16とを交互に形成し、脱塩室16にイオン交換器 脂、イオン交換微微もしくはグラフト交換体等からなる 40 アニオン交換体及びカチオン交換体を混合もしくは復居 状に充填した電気脱イオン装置が多用されている(特許 第1782943号、特許第2751090号、特許第 2699256号)。なお、図2において、17は精極 窓、18は降極室であり、一般にスペーザが設けられて いる。

【0003】瞬境寒16に流入したイオンはその報和 力、遺皮及び移動度に基いてイオン交換体と反応し、電 位の傾きの方向にイオン交換体中を移動し、更に膜を構 る。そして、頭のイオン遺紙的透過特性のため、及び電 位の傾きの方面性のために イオンは脳頻度16では減 少し、降りの濃縮室15では濃縮される。即ち、カチオ ンはカチオン交換膜14を遊過して、また、アニオンは アニオン交換職13を誘調して、それぞれ鴻確室15内 に遗稿される。とのため、脱塩壹16から生産水として 脱イオン水 (純水) が回収される。

【0004】原水は脱塩室16と滤牆室15とに導入さ れ、脱煙室16からは脱イオン水(縄水)が取り出され る。一方、濃縮室15から流出するイオンが濃縮された 滅槁水は、ボンブ (図示せず) により一部が水回収率の 向上のために機構室15の入口側に循環され、残部が系 内のイオンの遺稿を防止するために排水として系外へ排 出される。

【0005】なお、陽極室17及び除極空18にも電極 水が道液されており、この電極水には、漆電性の確保の ために数十µS/cm以上の電気伝導率を有する導電性 のある水を締結するか、 絞いはNaC1等の電解質が添 加される。

【0006】特願平10-43554号公報には除極意 に電気伝導粒子を充填することが提案されており. ま た. USP5, 868, 915には、電極空にイオン導 無性物質を充填することが提案されており、このように 電飯室にイオン等電性物質を充填した場合には、とのイ オン調査終物質により、電極窓の導電性を確保すること ができるため、電揺水への電解質の添加や導電性の水の 締給を不要とすることができる。 [0007]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】電極室にイオン薬産性 物理を充填した電気脱イオン装置は、電極室の電気抵抗 が小さく、個気効率が高いという利点を有するが、陽極 空では発生する塩素等の酸化剤によるイオン郷電性物質 の劣化の問題があり、また、陰極度ではスケール折出に よるイオン準電性物質の性能低下の問題があり、長期遅 転を継続するととができないという問題があった。 【0008】本発明は上記従来の問題点を解決し、電極

窓に売達したイオン準備性物質の性能低下を防止して基 **朔道転を可能とした電気脱イオン装置を提供することを** 目的とする。

Innagi

【課題を解決するための手段】本発明の電気脱イオン鉄 置は、陽極を有する陽極室と、陰極を有する陰板室と、 これらの疑極常と降極密との間に複数のアニオン交換膜 及びカチオン交換膜を交互に配列することにより交互に 形成された濃縮室及び脱塩室とを備え、陽極室にはカチ オン交換膜を介して繊細室が隣接し、除極空にはアニオ ン交換膜を介して濃縮室が隣接している電気脱イオン鉄 際において、陽極容及び除極密にイオン導管性物質が充 鎮されており、陽極窒にはアニオンを除去した水又は純 切って移動し、すべての室において電荷の中和が保たれ 50 水が過水され、除極空にはカチオンを除去した水又は純

水が適水されることを特徴とする。

【0010】本発明の電気脱イオン装置は、電極室にイ オン準電性物質を充準したため、電極室の電気能抗が小 さく、電気効率が高い。

[001] 第数組イオン機器の終数室においては、アの(1)の反応での日、か学生する。そして、カチオンを含有する電極水をイオン場端貸物質が充填された終極室に進水すると、終極室においては、下記(2)の反応でカルシウムスケールの生成のたり日、だより収置される。

2H₂ O+2e⁻ →2OH⁻ +H₂ ··· (1) Ca²⁺ +CO₂ * · →CaCO₂ ··· (2)

[0012]とのため、Ca²・イオンを含む水をイオン場留性物質が死境された院程室に適水すると、際程室 で発生するスケールのためにイオン専留性物質の性能低 下が生じる。

[0013]本料明では、Ca²・イオン等のカチオン を除去した水又は毛水を除配室に通水するため、このよ うなスケールの生成が粉止され、イオン将電管物質の性 能能下を生じることがない。

[00]4]また、陽径室においては、以下の(3)、 (4)の反応が起こり、塩素が生成し、生成した塩素に よりィオン交換機能等のイオン導端性物質が酸化劣化する。

2H₂O-4H⁻+4e⁻+O₂ ... (3)

2C1 → 2e + C12 --- (4)

[0015]本発明では、CI*イオン等のアニオンを 除去した木又は純木を降配室に連水するため、塩素の生 成が防止され、イオン等端性物質の酸化劣化が防止され る。

[0016] 除極重及び陽極並に充填するイオン場場能 物質としてはイオン交換網形が挙げられるが、「極重性 れいては、強素に対しても優性力を強いすご、(つ。)が 発生するため、逆元作用のある活性検を用いることが効 易的であり、活性損を単独で用いるか或いは活性検えイ オン交換網線と発電して用いても良い。

[0017] また、イオン等電性物質として、重金属を 担持したものを用いることにより、重金属が準電性を増 加させるという作用により、更に電気抵抗を低減させる という効果を得ることができ、好ましむ。

[0018]また、降極室の総出水には、耐起(1)の 原位で発生した水水が含まれている。この第三他の水業 を含さ核極速電池が水を開催金の線、大とすることはより 「降極空で発生する形化性物質を感元して除ますることかでき、終密を動物が とかでき、解密をは対するオン維度物質の様似状化 をより電泳に防止することができる。この降極変態地水 に降電かのチェオン交換線を選番して「毎のア ニオン成分が始まれているため、「陽極空流するマ ニオン成分が始まれているため、「陽極空流するマ ニオン成分が始まれているため、「陽極空流することができる。 [0018] 【発明の実施の形態】以下に図面を参照して本発明の実 施の形態を詳細に説明する。

施の形態を計画に減明90。 【0020】図1は本発明の実施の形態を示す電気説イオン鉄圏の続式的な断面図である。

[9021] この集気扱くオン接収法 図2に示す音楽 の電気級イオン接触と開催。電極 (陽極 11, 除壁) 2) の間に複数のアニオン交換線 (4勝 13 3及ウカチ オン交換線 (2勝) 14を交互に忍別して線障塞 15 と 均塞 3 (6 をを互互に邪助しためであり、段階 5 10 には、イオン交換機版、イオン交換機等もしくはグラフ ト交換件等からなるアニオン交換件及びカラオン交換件 が場合もしくは歴史状で頻度もれている。

[0022] 陽極室17及び降極空18は各々カテオン 交換第14及びアニオン交換額13を介して減縮室15 と隣接しており、この機整室17及び降極空18にはイ オン郷電性物質が充填されている。

(9023] 原水は地塩塩10 と連縮室15に導入され、影塩室16からは生産水(純水)が取り出される。この生産水の一部は、路板室18液入水として接煙至17の大田外・造結される。降塩を18次水は排水として売外・横出される。適縮室15から提出するイオンが増縮された活場水と、一部が場端された活成が増加される。通縮室15から提出するイオンが増縮された活場がよい、大田外・横出される。

[0024]との電気脱イオン装置では、関極室17及 び陰極変18にイオン装電性物質が充填されているた め、電極変の電気抵抗が小さく、電気効率が高い。

[0025] とのイオン専業性物質としては、イオン交換機能、イオン交換機能、グラフト交換体等のイオン交換機能、グラフト交換体等のイオン等性が関係しては、アエオン交換機能とかオオン交換機能との要用・イオン交換機能の関係・減いはアエオン 支換機能等のでエオン交換機能とが研究といるのが呼至して 対象機能を対象を

[0027] 陽極空17に活性炭を充填することは、前 途の如く、活性炭の還元作用で隔極室17における酸化 劣化を防止することができ、好ましい。

[0028]また。除極省18及び降極217に実施するイオン受機が開発のイオン受機が開発のイオン受機が開発のイオン受機が開発して対して対した。 アンガンモの重金属の1種又は2種以上を指揮させても6段、、Cのような重量原を出資させるという解決場合れる。 Cの場合 重金属の指針重に採作が翻訳は22 アメイオン受験に対して、5-10重量が確保とす。 アイオン受験に対して、5-10重量が確保とす。

ふのが好きしい

[0029]また、イオン交換体と共に活性炭を併用したり、イオン交換体に盆金膜を担待させる場合。 結性炭 や重金属担待・イオン交換体と電極室内の電極板面に沿っ で売換し、優先的に反応させることも効果的である。

[0030] 図1の電気約イオン装置では、このように イオン爆電性物質を充填した整接変18に生産水(摘 水)を通水するため、除煙室18におけるスケール発生 が防止され、スケールによるイオン導電性物質の性絶低 下が防止される。

[0031]また、降極室17に適水される陰極室18 の流出水は、終水が得程室17に適水されたものであ り、アニオン成分を含まず、しかも、除極変18内での 電額反応で生成した最元性物質の水素を含むため、降極 室17におけるイオン等電性物質の酸化劣化が防止され る。

【0032】なお、図1に示す常気数イオン装置は本発明の電気はイオン装置の実施の形態の一例であって、本発明はその要当を超えない限り、何ら四示のものに設定されるものではない。

【0033】例えば、図1の風光似名イナン機能では減縮 重18はイオン環路性物態が発生されていないが、Cの 減縮能に64イン交換は、活性効又は金属等のイオン構 機能物質がが終まれていても良い。また、図1の電気机 イン・機能では速光化性を図5 の能力水としている が、搭載218の後入水としては、別系線の傾す板いは 原株をカチオン交換指揮を必能したカチオン成分齢差米

[図1]

[0034] [発明の効果] 以上詳述した通り、本発明によれば、電

福室にイオン等電性物質を充填して電気効率を高めた電 別数イオン装置において、電程室に充填したイオン導電 性物質の性線低下を防止することができ、これにより長 販追禁運転が可能な電気脱イオン装置が提供される。 【図面の製料な影明】

【図1】 本発明の実施の形態を示す電気脱イオン鉄置の 模式的な断面図である。

(四2) 従来の電気脱イオン製産を示す模式的な断面図である。

【符号の説明】

11 精糖

12 陰極

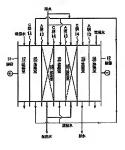
13 アニオン交換膜(A購) 14 カチオン交換膜(C膜)

15 鴻緯容

16 脱塩室

17 提接室

18 降極空



[22]

フロントページの続き

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35

(54) [Title of the Invention] Electric deionizer

(57) [Abstract]

[Issue] To prevent a reduction in performance of an ion 5 conductive substance which fills the electrode chambers of an electric deionizer, thereby enabling long-term operation.

[Means of Resolution] An electric deionizer comprising:

10 an anode chamber 17 having an anode 11; a cathode chamber 18 having a cathode 12; and enriching chambers 15 and desalination chambers 16 which are alternately formed by a plurality of anion exchange membranes 13 and cation exchange membranes 14 which are alternately 15 arranged between the anode chamber 17 and cathode chamber 18. The anode chamber 17 and cathode chamber 18 are filled with an ion conductive substance, and deanionized water or pure water passes through the anode chamber 17, while de-cationized water or pure water 20 passes through the cathode chamber 18.

raw water

11: anode

12: cathode

25 13: A membrane

14: C membrane

15: enrichment chamber

16: desalination chamber

17: anode chamber

30 18: cathode chamber

waste water

enriched water

waste water

production water

[Scope of the Patent Claims]

cathode chamber.

conductive substance.

[Claim 1] An electric deionizer comprising: an anode chamber having an anode; a cathode chamber having a cathode; and enriching chambers and desalination chambers which are alternately formed by a plurality of anion exchange membranes and cation exchange membranes which are alternately arranged between the anode chamber and cathode chamber; and

an enrichment chamber lies adjacent to the anode

to chamber with a cation exchange membrane interposed, and
an enrichment chamber lies adjacent to the cathode
chamber with an anion exchange membrane interposed,
wherein the anode chamber and the cathode chamber are
filled with an ion conductive substance:

- 15 de-anionized water or pure water passes through the anode chamber; and de-cationized water or pure water passes through the
- 20 [Claim 2] The electric deionizer as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ion conductive substance in the anode chamber is an ion exchange resin and/or activated carbon, and the ion conductive substance in the cathode

25 [Claim 3] The electric deionizer as claimed in claim 2, wherein a heavy metal is supported by the ion

30 [Claim 4] The electric deionizer as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the cathode chamber outflow water is used as the angle chamber inflow water.

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

chamber is an ion exchange resin.

35 [0001]

[Technical Field of the Invention] The present invention relates to an electric deionizer, and in particular the invention relates to an electric deionizer in which the electrical efficiency is

improved by filling the electrode chambers (anode chamber and cathode chamber) thereof with an ion conductive substance, and a reduction in the performance of the ion conductive substance which fills the electrode chambers of the electric deionizer is prevented, thereby enabling long-term operation.

[0002]

[Prior Art] Electric deionizers such as that shown in 10 Figure 2, in which enrichment chambers 15 and desalination chambers 16 are alternately formed by a plurality of anion exchange membranes (A membranes) 13 and cation exchange membranes (C membranes) 14 which are alternately arranged between electrodes (anode 11, 15 cathode 12), and in which the desalination chambers 16 are filled with a mixture or stacked layers of anion exchange material or cation exchange material comprising ion exchange resins, ion exchange fibers or graft exchange material etc., are widely used in the production of deionized water for use in various 20 industrial and commercial fields and facilities, including semiconductor production plants, liquid crystal production plants, the pharmaceutical industry, the food industry, and the power industry, 25 among others (Japanese Patents 1782943, 2751090, 2699256). In Figure 2, 17 is an anode chamber and 18 is a cathode chamber, and spacers are generally provided.

[0003] Ions which flow into the desalination chambers
30 16 react with the ion exchange material due to the
affinity, concentration and mobility of these ions,
which then move through the ion exchange material in
the direction of the potential gradient, and move
across the membrane, and a neutral charge is maintained
35 in all of the chambers. The ions are decreased in the
desalination chambers 16 and are enriched in the
adjacent enrichment chambers 15 because of the
characteristics of the membranes which are selectively
permeable to ions, and because of the directivity of

the potential gradient. That is to say, cations pass through the cation exchange membranes 14, and anions pass through the anion exchange membranes 13 so as to be concentrated in the enrichment chambers 15.

5 Consequently, deionized water (pure water) is recovered from the desalination chambers 16 as production water.

[0004] Raw water is introduced into the desalination chambers 16 and enrichment chambers 15 and deionized 10 water (pure water) is recovered from the desalination chambers 16. Meanwhile, some of the enriched water which has been enriched with the ions flowing out from the enrichment chambers 15 is circulated to the inlet side of the enrichment chambers 15 by means of a pump 15 (not depicted) in order to raise the water recovery rate, and the remainder is discharged to outside the system as waste water in order to prevent ion enrichment inside the system.

20 [0005] Moreover, electrode water is also allowed to pass through the anode chamber 17 and cathode chamber 18, and this electrode water is replenished with conductive water having electrical conductivity of several tens of µS/cm or greater, or an NaCl 25 electrolyte or similar is added thereto in order to ensure conductivity.

100061 Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-43554 proposes filling the cathode chamber with conductive particles, and USP 5,868,915 3.0 proposes filling the electrode chambers with an ion conductive substance; when the electrode chambers are filled with an ion conductive substance in this way, the ion conductive substance makes it possible to 35 ensure conductivity in the electrode chambers, and therefore it is no longer necessary to add the electrolyte to the electrode water or to replenish same with conductive water.

[00071

[Issues to be Resolved by the Invention] With electric deionizers in which the electrode chambers are filled with an ion conductive substance, there are advantages 5 in that the electrical resistance is low and the electrical efficiency is high in the electrode chambers, but there are problems in that the ion conductive substance deteriorates because of oxidizing agents such as chlorine which are generated in the anode chamber; 10 there are further problems in that there is a reduction in performance of the ion conductive substance because of scale deposition in the cathode chamber, and also in that operation cannot be continued over prolonged periods of time.

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[0008] The present invention aims to resolve these problems by providing an electric deionizer in which reductions in performance of the ion conductive substance which fills the electrode chambers are prevented, thereby enabling long-term operation.

[00091

[Means of Resolving the Issues] The electric deionizer according to the present invention comprises: an anode 25 chamber having an anode; a cathode chamber having a cathode: and enriching chambers and desalination chambers which are alternately formed by a plurality of anion exchange membranes and cation exchange membranes are alternately arranged between the 30 chamber and cathode chamber; and an enrichment chamber lies adjacent to the anode chamber with a cation exchange membrane interposed, and an enrichment chamber lies adjacent to the cathode chamber with an anion exchange membrane interposed, wherein the anode chamber and the cathode chamber are filled with an ion 35 conductive substance; de-anionized water or pure water passes through the anode chamber; and de-cationized water or pure water passes through the cathode chamber.

[0010] The electrode chambers of the electric deionizer according to the present invention are filled with an ion conductive substance, and therefore the electrical resistance is low and the electrical efficiency is high in the electrode chambers.

[0011] In the cathode chamber of the electric deionizer, OH is generated by the reaction in (1) below. Then, when the electrode water which contains cations passes through the cathode chamber which is filled with the ion conductive substance, calcium scale is generated in the cathode chamber by the reaction in (2) below, and the calcium scale generating reaction is promoted by OH.

$$2H_2O + 2e^- \rightarrow 2OH^- + H_2$$
 ...(1)
 $Ca^{2+} + CO_3^{2-} \rightarrow CaCO_3$...(2)

1.5

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[0012] Consequently, when water containing Ca²⁺ ions 0 passes through the cathode chamber which is filled with the ion conductive substance, there is a reduction in the performance of the ion conductive substance because of the scale which is generated in the cathode chamber.

- 25 [0013] In the present invention, de-cationized water, from which Ca²⁺ ions or the like have been removed, or pure water passes through the cathode chamber, and therefore scale is prevented from being generated and there is no reduction in performance of the ion
 - [0014] Furthermore, the following reactions in (3) and (4) take place in the anode chamber, where chlorine is generated and the ion conductive substance such as an ion exchange resin undergoes oxidative degradation caused by the generation of chlorine.

$$2H_2O \rightarrow 4H^- + 4e^- + O_2$$
 ...(3)
 $2Cl^- \rightarrow 2e^- + Cl_2$...(4)

[0015] In the present invention, de-anionized water, from which Cl⁻ ions or the like have been removed, or pure water passes through the anode chamber, and therefore chlorine generation is prevented and oxidative degradation of the ion conductive substance is prevented.

[0016] Ion exchange resin may be cited as an ion conductive substance for filling the cathode chamber and the anode chamber, but ozone (O₃) which has a strong oxidizing power is also generated besides chlorine in the anode chamber, and therefore it is effective to use activated carbon which has a reducing action; the activated carbon may be used alone or ion exchange resin and activated carbon may be mixed together for use.

[0017] Furthermore, if a substance which supports a 20 heavy metal is used as the ion conductive substance, it is possible to achieve an effect whereby the electrical resistance is further reduced because the heavy metal acts to increase conductivity, and this is preferred.

[0018] Furthermore, the cathode chamber outflow water 2.5 contains hydrogen which is generated in the reaction (1) above. The cathode chamber outflow water containing this reducing hydrogen serves as the anode chamber inflow water, and this means that it is possible to 30 reduce and remove the oxidizing substances generated in the anode chamber, and it is possible to more reliably prevent oxidative degradation of the ion conductive substance in the anode chamber. The cathode outflow water exits the cathode chamber and passes through the 35 anion exchange membranes whereby the anion component such as Cl is removed therefrom, which means that this water can be effectively utilized as water from which the anion component has been removed that passes through the anode chamber.

[0019]

[Mode of Embodiment of the Invention] A mode of embodiment of the present invention will be described below in detail with reference to the figures.

[0020] Figure 1 is a schematic view in cross section of the electric deionizer which represents a mode of embodiment of the present invention.

1.0

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[0021] Like the conventional electric deionizer shown in Figure 2, this electric deionizer is a device in which enrichment chambers 15 and desalination chambers 16 are alternately formed by a plurality of anion exchange membranes (A membranes) 13 and cation exchange membranes (C membranes) 14 which are alternately arranged between electrodes (anode 11, cathode 12), and in which the desalination chambers 16 are filled with a mixture or stacked layers of anion exchange material or 20 cation exchange material comprising ion exchange resins, ion exchange fibers or graft exchange material etc.

[0022] The anode chamber 17 and cathode chamber 18 are both adjacent to enrichment chambers 15, with a cation 2.5 exchange membrane 14 and an anion exchange membrane 13 interposed, respectively, and the anode chamber 17 and cathode chamber 18 are filled with an ion conductive substance.

[0023] Raw water is introduced into the desalination 30 chambers 16 and enrichment chambers 15 and production water (pure water) is recovered from the desalination chambers 16. Some of the production water is pumped to the inlet side of the cathode chamber 18 as cathode chamber 18 inflow water. The cathode chamber 18 outflow 35 water is pumped to the inlet side of the anode chamber 17, and the anode chamber 17 outflow water is discharged to outside the system as waste water. Some

of the enriched water which has been enriched with the

ions flowing out from the enrichment chambers 15 is circulated to the inlet side of the enrichment chambers 15, and the remainder is discharged to outside the system as waste water.

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1.0

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[0024] With this electric deionizer, the anode chamber 17 and cathode chamber 18 are filled with the ion conductive substance, and therefore the electrical resistance is low and the electrical efficiency is high in the electrode chambers.

[0025] Ion exchange material such as ion exchange resin, ion exchange fibers or graft exchange material may be cited as ion conductive substances; the ion conductive substance used in the cathode chamber 18 is preferably a mixed ion exchange material such as a mixed bed ion exchange resin comprising anion exchange resin and cation exchange resin, or an anion exchange material alone such as anion exchange resin.

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[0026] On the other hand, the ion conductive substance used in the anode chamber 17 is preferably a mixed ion exchange material such as a mixed bed ion exchange resin comprising anion exchange resin and cation exchange resin, or a cation exchange material alone such as cation exchange resin, or a mixture of activated carbon and these ion exchange materials.

[0027] Filling the anode chamber 17 with activated carbon makes it possible to prevent oxidative degradation in the anode chamber 17, by virtue of the reducing action of the activated carbon, as was described above, and this is preferable.

35 [0028] Furthermore, one or two or more types of heavy metals such as palladium, iron and manganese may be supported by some or all of the ion exchange materials such as the ion exchange resins which fill the cathode chamber 18 and anode chamber 17; when such heavy metals are supported, an effect is demonstrated whereby the electrical resistance is further reduced. In this case, no particular limitation is imposed on the amount of heavy metal supported, but this amount is preferably around 0.5 - 10 wt% with respect to the ion exchange material.

[0029] Furthermore, when the ion exchange materials are used in conjunction with activated carbon, and when the ion exchange materials support heavy metals, the electrode chambers are filled with the ion exchange material which supports activated carbon or heavy metals along the surface of the electrode plates and this is effective in favoring reaction.

15

[0030] With the electric deionizer in Figure 1, production water (pure water) flows through the cathode chamber 18 which is filled with the ion conductive substance in this way, and therefore scale is prevented from being generated in the cathode chamber 18, and so a reduction in the performance of the ion conductive substance caused by the scale is prevented.

[0031] Furthermore, the cathode chamber 18 outflow 25 water which flows through the anode chamber 17 is pure water flowing into the anode chamber 17, and it does not contain an anion component, and moreover it contains reducing hydrogen which is generated in the electrode reaction inside the cathode chamber 18, and 30 therefore it is possible to prevent oxidative degradation of the ion conductive substance in the anode chamber 17.

[0032] Moreover, the electric deionizer shown in Figure 1 is one example of a mode of embodiment of the electric deionizer according to the present invention, but the present invention is not limited to the device shown in the figure, provided that any variations remain within the scope of the invention.

[0033] For example, with the electric deionizer shown in Figure 1, the enrichment chambers 15 are not filled with the ion conductive substance, but the enrichment chambers may equally be filled with an ion exchange material or an ion conductive substance such activated carbon or heavy metal. Furthermore, with the electric deionizer shown in Figure 1, production water serves as the cathode chamber 18 inflow water, but pure 10 water from a separate system or water from which the cation component has been removed by processing raw water in a cation exchange resin column (soft water) may equally be used as the cathode chamber 18 inflow Furthermore, instead of using the cathode chamber 18 outflow water for the anode chamber 17 15 inflow water, it is feasible to use production water or pure water from a separate system or water from which the anion component has been removed by processing raw water in an anion exchange resin column. It is not 20 necessarily the case that some of the enriched water has to be circulated, and when the quality of the production water is more of a priority than the water recovery rate, raw water may be allowed to flow through for a time in any direction.

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[0034]

[Effects of the Invention] As described above, the present invention provides an electric deionizer in which the electrical efficiency is improved by filling the electrode chambers thereof with an ion conductive substance, and a reduction in the performance of the ion conductive substance which fills the electrode chambers of the electric deionizer can be prevented, thereby enabling long-term operation.

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[Brief Description of the Figures]
[Figure 1] is a schematic view in cross section of an electric deionizer which represents a mode of embodiment of the present invention; and

[Figure 2] is a schematic view in cross section which represents a conventional electric deionizer.

[Key to Symbols]

- 5 11 anode
 - 12 cathode
 - 13 anion exchange membrane (A membrane)
 - 14 cation exchange membrane (C membrane)
 - 15 enrichment chamber
- 10 16 desalination chamber
 - 17 anode chamber
 - 18 cathode chamber

[Figure 1]

- 15 raw water
 - 11: anode
 - 12: cathode
 - 13: A membrane
 - 14: C membrane
- 20 15: enrichment chamber
 - 16: desalination chamber
 - 17: anode chamber
 - 18: cathode chamber
 - waste water
- 25 enriched water

waste water

production water

[Figure 2]

- 30 raw water
 - electrode water
 - 13: A membrane
 - 14: C membrane
 - electrode water
- 35 11: anode
 - 12: cathode
 - 15: enrichment chamber
 - 16: desalination chamber
 - 17: anode chamber

18: cathode chamber enriched water

production water

waste water

